



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

**United States Patent and Trademark Office**

Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS  
Washington, D.C. 20231

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------

08/468,437 06/06/95 HODA

T 3408/589

SIDLEY & AUSTIN  
717 NORTH HARWOOD  
SUITE 3400  
DALLAS, TX 75201

WM01/0409

EXAMINER

NGUYEN, H

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2615

DATE MAILED:

04/09/01

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

# Office Action Summary

Application No.  
**08/468,437**

Applicant(s)  
**Hoda et al**

Examiner  
**HUY NGUYEN**

Group Art Unit  
**2615**



☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Jan 26, 2001

☐ This action is **FINAL**.

☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, **prosecution as to the merits is closed** in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 35 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire three month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

## Disposition of Claim

☒ Claim(s) 20-22, 31-34, 37, and 40-51 is/are pending in the applicat

Of the above, claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration

☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.

☒ Claim(s) 20-22, 31-34, 37, and 40-51 is/are rejected.

☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.

☐ Claims \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

## Application Papers

☐ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.

☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.

☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

☐ All ☐ Some\* ☒ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been

☐ received.

☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) \_\_\_\_\_.

☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\*Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

## Attachment(s)

☐ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413

☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

--- SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES ---

Art Unit: 2615

DETAILED ACTION

*Continued Prosecution Application*

1. The request filed on Oct 25, 2000 for a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) under 37 CAR 1.53(d) based on parent Application No. 08/468437 is acceptable and a CPA has been established. An action on the CPA follows.

*Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 112*

2. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

3. Claims 20-22,33,34, 40-42 and 47-48 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/r use the invention.

In claim 20 and 40, the recitation "the image information outputted from said imaging device ... would be directed to the second memory" is not described in the specification. It is noted that the specification and Fig. 4 disclose that the image data is stored in the first memory is transferred to the second memory, not directly from the imaging device.

Art Unit: 2615

The specification does not describe a second memory which is connected to both the first connection and second connection as now recited in claim 40.

*Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103*

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CAR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103© and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

5. Claims 40-42 and 45-46 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Sasaki (5,034,804) in view of Kinoshita et al (4,897,732).

Regarding claims 40 and 43, Sasaki discloses a camera apparatus (Figs 1 and 6) comprising:

a camera body ( Fig 1, 6A-6B);

Art Unit: 2615

an image device ( 20,26);

A first memory (316) connected to a first connection and second memory connected to a second connection ( ID card 15) for storing image information from the image device);

detecting means (CPU 24) for detecting an available capacity of one of the first and second memory (column 9, lines 15-37); and

changing means (CPU) for selectively changing between a first condition for storing and holding the image signal from the image device in the first memory when the available capacity of the second memory is not sufficient or the memory is not connected to the second connection for storing the images or storing the image signal from an image device in the second memory when the capacity of the second memory is sufficient to store the image signal (column 9, lines 19-35) and generating an alarm when the capacity of the second memory is not sufficient to store the image data .

Sasaki further teaches a reproducing device (Fig. 11) for reproducing the image signal from the second memory but fails to specifically teach that the reproduction device can selectively reproduce the image signal from the first memory. However, it is noted that using a reproduction device as a monitor to reproduce the image signal from a first memory and a second memory supplied thereto is well known in the art as taught by Kinoshita. Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Sasaki with Kinoshita by using a reproducing device as taught by Kinoshita for selectively reproducing the image signal from the first memory or the second memory.

Art Unit: 2615

Regarding claim 41, Sasaki further teaches that the second memory is a semiconductor memory (IC card SRAM) but fails to teach that the first memory is also a semiconductor memory. However, it is noted that using a semiconductor memory for storing data is well known in the art. Therefore Official Notice is taken and it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Sasaki by using a semiconductor memory as an alternative to the first memory of Sasaki for storing the image data .

Regarding claim 42, Sasaki further teach a view finder (130) (Fig. 13, column 1, lines 35-63).

6. Claims 20-22 , 33, 43-44 and 47-50 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over of Sasaki et al (5,034,804) in view of Official Notice.

Regarding claims 20-22, ,33 , 43-44, and 47-50, Sasaki discloses a camera apparatus (Figs 1,6A,6B) comprising:

Regarding claim 40, Sasaki discloses a camera apparatus (Figs 1 and 6) comprising:

a camera body ( Fig 1, 6A-6B);

an image device ( 20,26);

first memory (316) connected to a first connection and second memory connected to a second connection ( ID card 15) for storing image information from the image device);

detecting means (CPU 24) for detecting an available capacity of one of the first and second memory (column 9, lines 15-37) ; and

Art Unit: 2615

changing means (CPU) for selectively changing between a first condition for storing and holding the image signal from the image device in the first memory when the available capacity of the second memory is not sufficient or the memory is not connected to the second connection and for storing the image data I from the image device in the second memory when the capacity of the second memory is sufficient. (column 9, lines 19-35) and generating an alarm when the capacity of the second memory is insufficient to store the image data .

Regarding claim 33, Sasaki further teaches a finder for find the image object.

Sasaki further teaches that the second memory is a semiconductor memory (IC card SRAM) but fails to teach that the first memory is also a semiconductor memory. However, it is noted that using a semiconductor memory for storing data is well known in the art. Therefore Official Notice is taken and it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Sasaki by using a semiconductor memory as an alternative to the first memory of Sasaki for storing the image data .

Applicants argue that Sasaki does not teach a changer for selectively changing the first condition and second condition for storing the image data from the CCD into the first memory and the second memory. In response, the examiner disagrees. It is noted that Sasaki teaches a controller (CPU) for detecting the capacity of the second memory, when the capacity is sufficient, the image information is transferred from CCD via the first memory is stored and held in the second memory and when the capacity is not sufficient, the image information is stored and held in the first memory and is not transferred to the second memory (column 8, lines 45 to

Art Unit: 2615

column 9, lines 1-35). It is clearly that Sasaki teaches means for selecting the first memory or the second memory for storing (holding ) the image information from the CCD bases on the detected memory condition.

7. Claim 34 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sasaki as applied to claims 20 above, further in view of Finelli.

Sasaki fails to specifically teach the use of a printer for the camera as recited in claim 36. However, it is noted that using a printer for making a copy of the image is well known in the art as taught by Finelli (See Finelli, Figs. 1 and 3). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Sasaki with Finelli by providing a printer as taught by Finelli into the camera apparatus of Sasaki in order to provide a copy of the selected select image to the user.

8. Claims 31 , 37 and 51 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lang in view of Sasaki et al.

Lang discloses an editing apparatus for comprising:

a first reception unit for receiving a memory (13)(column 6, lines 1-20).

a second reception unit (11) for receiving a memory device (column 3, lines 58 to column 4, line 16);



Art Unit: 2615

signal processing means (26) for expanding (restoring ) the compressed image signal from the memory (column 9, lines 20-30);

recording and reading means for recording and reading the expanded image signal (restored image signal )on and from the memory device (11,23) (column 3, lines 58-62, column 9, lines 1-68).

Lang further teaches that the memory is a semiconductor (SRAM)(column 6, lines 1-20), but fails to teach that the memory is a memory card which is removable (column 6, lines 1-20).

However, it is noted that using a memory as a memory card for recording an image signal and a reception unit to enable the memory card can be removed from an apparatus is well known in the art as shown by Sasaki.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Lang with Sasaki by providing a memory card and a reception unit of the memory card as taught by Sasaki into the apparatus of Lang as an alternate memory of Lang and incorporate a reception unit to enable the memory card can be received and removed from the apparatus in order to reduce the size of the overall apparatus and easily replace the memory card.

Further for claim 31, Lang as modified with Sasaki teaches that the image information is produced by a camera (See Lang and Sasaki references).

9. Claim 32 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lang in view of Sasaki as applied to claim 31 above, and further in view of Watanabe.

Art Unit: 2615

Lang fails to specifically teach that the image signal is compressed in a DCT manner. However, it is noted that expanding a compressed image signal in a DCT manner is well known in the art as shown by Watanabe (Fig. 2, column 5, lines 27-35). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Lang with Watanabe by providing apparatus of Lang with a DCT compressing and expanding as taught by Watanabe to compress and expand the image signals in order to improve the quality of the image signal

### *Response to Arguments*

10. Applicant's arguments filed Jan 26, 2001 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

In Remarks, pages 11 and 12, applicants argue that Lang as modified with Sasaki fails to teach a plurality of removable memories and fails to teach. A processor for storing the compressed image signal from the removable memory card. In response, it is submitted that the proposed combination of Lang and Sasaki does teach a plurality of removable memories since Lang teaches an editing apparatus which comprises a memory device (23) (column 5, line 37 to column 4, line 16) and a memory 13 (column 6, lines 8-12) and Sasaki teaches the use of a memory card can be removable from the recording apparatus. Therefore, the combination of Lang Sasaki will provide a removable memory card (13) for the editing apparatus. Lang as modified with Sasaki further teaches a processor (29) for restoring (expanding) the image signal (See Lang reference) from the removable memory card (13) and then the restored image

Art Unit: 2615

signal is transferred to and stored in the memory device (11,23). Therefore, the combination of Lang and Sasaki would teach the removable memory card (13) having the image signal which require restoration before storing in the memory device (23).

Further applicant argue that Lang does not teach “receiving an original removable storage medium that stores processed image data and that require restoration. In response, the examiner disagrees. The combination of Lang and Sasaki does teach an original removable medium stored processed image data. Lang teaches that image of a camera is transmitted to a compressed means for compressing and then the compressed image data is stored on the memory 13, the memory 13 is an original medium stored the compressed data that require restoration for stored in the second memory. Further Lang teaches an expanding means that considered as the claimed processor that having function of restoring the compressed image (expanding the compressed image data to the original image data) from the first memory and the original image data is stored in the second memory. Further it is noted that the combination of Lang does not change the principle of operation of the apparatus since making the first memory (13) is a removable memory or medium does not changed the principle of stored the compressed image data and restored the image data.

Art Unit: 2615

11. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Huy Nguyen whose telephone number is (703) 305-4775. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 6:30AM to 5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wendy Garber, can be reached on (703) 305-4929.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4700.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

**Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks**

**Washington, D.C. 20231**

or faxed to:

**(703) 308-6306**

Or:

**(703) 308-6296**

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to **Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist)**.

H.N

April 8, 2001

  
**HUY NGUYEN**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**